and, if its results are utilized, marked improvement will undoubtedly be registered. Yet after all the qualifying deficiencies have been taken into account, the fact remains that the traditional Chinese agriculture has much to commend it.

First of all, the Chinese have cultivated a very wide range of plants. This variety has been favored by the size of the country and the ensuing differences in climate and soil. Much of it, however, is due to the eagerness of the Chinese to appropriate whatever useful plant has come to their attention. To native varieties have been added, through the years, many from foreign lands. Some of the most prevalent of the food plants, indeed, have certainly and others have possibly been importations. The average Westerner thinks of the Chinese as eating chiefly rice. For large portions of the country this impression is not entirely untrue. For most of China proper south of the valley of the Yellow River, and particularly for the lower part of the Yangtze Valley and the provinces on the south coast, rice —of many varieties—is a major article of diet and the crop most extensively grown. However, scores of millions of Chinese, especially in the North, have never tasted rice. Probably for more than one hundred and fifty millions it does not count as an article of diet. Many other grains are raised. Wheat is cultivated in Manchuria and over most of China proper and is a major crop on the North China plain, in Shantung, Kansu, Shensi, and the northern portions of Anhui and Hupeh. Millet is extensively raised in the North, and particularly in the semi-arid portions of Kansu, Shensi, Shansi, and Inner Mongolia. Kaoliang, a kind of sorghum, is widely planted in the northeast of China proper, and forms

the staple crop in much of Manchuria. Kaoliang supplies not only food in the form of grain, but its stalks and leaves are used for thatching, matting, packing, bridges, and fuel. Rice, wheat, millet, and kaoliang constitute the chief grains, but others, such as buckwheat, barley, and oats, are to be found in some sections.

Some sugar is produced, but its consumption is scanty and a good deal is imported from Java and Formosa.

Many legumes are raised. Peas, alfalfa, clover, and beans of several kinds, including the soy bean, are among them and are valuable not only as food but for maintaining the fertility of the soil. The soy bean especially is notable (particularly the yellow